

HOUSE PASSES GROUT BILL.

THE VOTE WAS 104 FOR THE MEASURE AND 92 AGAINST IT.

It Taxes Oleomargarine When Colored in Imitation of Butter. It Cents a Pound Charge When It Is Not. The Dairies Color Butter and Mix It With Oleomargarine.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Immediately after the reading of the Journal in the House today the Grout Oleomargarine bill was taken up under a special order adopted at the last session. It provides that all imitation butter or cheese sold in accordance with the laws of the State or Territory in which it is offered for sale, and it fixes a tax of one-quarter of a cent a pound on oleomargarine when not colored in imitation of butter, and 10 cents a pound when so colored.

The bill was reported by the Committee on Agriculture, ten members favoring it and seven opposing it. The minority recommended the passage of a substitute prepared by Chairman Wadsworth. This puts the manufacture of oleomargarine under the control of the Internal Revenue Bureau and forbids the sale of it except in specially marked packages, so that the purchaser may know exactly what he is buying. It also imposes a tax of \$500 a year on manufacturers, \$400 on wholesale dealers and \$45 on retail dealers.

Efforts to reach agreement to fix an hour for taking a vote on the bill were unavailing and the discussion was opened by Mr. Henry (Rep., Conn.), who reported the bill, in favor of its passage. He said there was ample cause for alarm at the tremendous illegal growth of the oleomargarine traffic in this country during the past few years. It now appeared to have reached proportions beyond the power of the States successfully to regulate or control, and the present Federal laws were apparently altogether inadequate for the emergency.

Mr. Henry referred to the results of the investigations made by the Committee on the composition and sale of oleomargarine. It was found that it consisted largely of neutral oils and oleomargarine. Cottonseed oil comprised the bulk of the adulteration. It was found that the adulteration was not confined to the dairies, but that it was a widespread industry. The adulteration was found to be a legitimate industry, and it was found that the adulteration was a legitimate industry.

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MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.

Mr. Taylor of Ohio Proposes to Give Congress Power to Enact Uniform Laws.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Representative Taylor of Ohio, who conducted the campaign in the House last session against the seating of Brigham H. Roberts as a Representative from Utah, today introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution giving Congress power to enact uniform laws relating to marriage and divorce, and he has announced his intention of pressing the resolution upon the attention of the Judiciary Committee.

In his study of the subject Mr. Taylor found one case that illustrates the necessity for the proposed legislation. A man married in New York and later moved to Pennsylvania and secured a divorce. He married a second time in Pennsylvania and moved to California. A divorce from the Pennsylvania wife was secured in California, followed by a third matrimonial venture in that State. There he died, leaving property in the three States named. Because New York and Pennsylvania did not recognize the validity of the divorces obtained in Pennsylvania and California, respectively, three widows set up their claims to the property and their estates were quarreled.

The case, Mr. Taylor continued, presented a more objectionable moral phase or possibility than the one he had just mentioned. Each of the several States, and assuming relations with his wives, practiced practical polygamy without violating the laws of the State in which he might be. The authorities would recognize him as the lawful husband of the wife in each State. Such a condition, he said, should be made impossible by uniform laws on the subjects of marriage and divorce which would be such that that end could be secured.

MARITIME CANAL COMPANY PROTESTS.

Asks the Aid of the United States in Obtaining Its Rights from Nicaragua.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The report of the Maritime Canal Company to Dec. 1, 1900, was submitted to Congress today by the Secretary of the Interior. It contains an allegation of the company that the Government of Nicaragua has been guilty of an arbitrary and unwarranted breach of the Cardenas-McCormick contract in attempting to deprive the company of its vested rights in one of the articles of the agreement, and has proceeded to seize the company's property at Greytown without lawful authority.

The report asserts that the Nicaraguan Government has been guilty of an arbitrary and unwarranted breach of the Cardenas-McCormick contract in attempting to deprive the company of its vested rights in one of the articles of the agreement, and has proceeded to seize the company's property at Greytown without lawful authority.

DEMAND ON GUATEMALA.

It Is for the Release From Restraint of R. H. May, the American Railroad Contractor.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The Secretary of State today by telegraph another provisional demand for the release from restraint of R. H. May, the American railroad contractor, who recently secured an award of \$140,000 against the Government of Guatemala and on the ground that he had not paid certain debts. Mr. Hunter, the United States Minister at Guatemala, advised the State Department today that May had not been imprisoned, and that he was free to leave the country under a law which forbids a debtor from leaving the republic without paying his obligations or without the consent of the Government to settle them. In his instruction to Minister Hunter, Secretary Hay said that it had been clearly shown to the State Department that May had appointed an attorney of record, and that if this was correct, Mr. Hunter should demand May's freedom and inform him of his release from restraint.

AGAINST HAWAII DELEGATE.

It Is Alleged That the Election Is Absolutely Null and Void.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The House Committee on Elections today before a session presented by Representative Mondell of Wyoming in behalf of Albert B. Loebenstein and A. N. Kepoiaki of Hawaii, alleging that Delegate R. W. Wilcox of Hawaii is not entitled to his seat in either the Fifty-sixth or Fifty-seventh Congress. They allege that at the time the election was held there was no law fixing the time, place and manner of holding the election, and it is therefore absolutely null and void. They further ask permission to file charges against the private and public character of said R. W. Wilcox, and ask the House to investigate the charges. Loebenstein resides at Hilo and Kepoiaki at Wailuku, Maui.

Movements of Naval Vessels.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The battleship Alabama has arrived at League Island, the torpedo boat Cushing at New York, the tug Leydon at Newport, the training ship Topok at Naples, the collier Chester at Colombo, the cruiser Philadelphia at Santiago, and the training ship Lancaster at Port of Spain.

The training ship Annapolis sailed from Norfolk for Norfolk Roads, the cruiser Leconte from Pensacola for Lambert's Point, the destroyer Thetis from Norfolk for Washington, the gunboat Scorpion from Kingston for Aux Cayes, the tug Pelican from Portsmouth for Hampton Roads and the collier Pompey from Malta for Aden.

Foss Elected Chairman of Naval Committee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Representative Foss of Illinois was unanimously elected chairman of the House Committee on Naval Affairs today in place of Capt. Boutelle, who resigned the chairmanship on Wednesday. Mr. Foss is the ranking Republican on the committee and has been its acting chairman during the present Congress. He is the youngest chairman of a House committee, being 32 years of age. He is now completing his third term in Congress and has been re-elected.

The general debate was concluded by Mr. Tawney (Rep., Minn.), in favor of the bill and against the substitute.

After a short debate under the five-minute rule the substitute proposed by the minority of the committee was defeated, 108 to 92. It provides as follows:

"That all articles known as oleomargarine, butterine, imitation butter or imitation cheese, or any substance in the semblance of butter or cheese, or any substance in the semblance of the dairy, and not made exclusively of pure and unadulterated milk or cream, transported into any State or Territory or the District of Columbia, and remaining therein for sale, consumption, importation and exportation, shall be exempt therefrom by reason of being introduced for sale in packages of one-half pound or less, provided that nothing in this act shall be construed to permit any State or Territory to impose a tax on oleomargarine in a separate and distinct form and in such manner as will advise the consumer of the true character of the product or ingredient that causes it to look like butter."

Section 2 That after the passage of this act the tax upon oleomargarine as prescribed in section 1 of the act approved Aug. 2, 1898, and entitled "An act defining butter, and imposing a tax upon and regulating the manufacture, sale, importation and exportation of oleomargarine," shall be one-fourth of one cent per pound when the same is not colored in imitation of butter, and ten cents per pound when colored in imitation of butter, and the manufacturer shall be in cents per pound, and be levied and collected in accordance with the provisions of said act."

Mr. Payne (Rep., N. Y.), chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, today backed the bill to reduce the war tax. He gave notice that he would call it up for action after the disposal of the tariff and Executive Department Appropriation bill, which he thought would be on Tuesday.

The House then adjourned until to-morrow.

Senate Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—As soon as the Senate met this morning it was ordered that the adjournment to-day shall be until next Monday.

The committee amendments to the Ship Subsidy bill recommended yesterday were reported by Mr. Frye (Rep., Me.), chairman of the committee, and were read and ordered printed.

Mr. Callender called attention to the remarkable increase of typhoid fever in the District of Columbia, the death rate, he said, being alarmingly large, and he presented the report of a committee of five physicians favoring the establishment of a "sand filtration" system for the Potomac water.

The report was ordered printed.

De Vos Contemplates Barring or Exchanging Real Estate?

Special opportunities may be found by referring to THE SUN'S Real Estate columns.—Ad.

BIDS ON NEW WARSHIPS.

FOR FIVE BATTLESHIPS AND SIX ARMORED CRUISERS.

All the big shipbuilding firms compete. The Battleships Will Be the Most Powerful Ever Projected. Three With Superposed Turrets—Total Cost, \$35,000,000.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—Bids were opened in the office of the Secretary of the Navy at noon today for the construction of eleven armaments of the first class, five battleships and six armored cruisers, representing a cost to the Government of about \$35,000,000. These ships will comprise tonnage more than the tonnage of the entire navy of the United States ten years ago, and the number of vessels concerned is greater than the number of battleships and armored cruisers in the American service. All the big shipbuilding firms competed and representatives of these concerns attended the opening. All the bids were based on the Department's plans. The bids follow:

William Cramp & Sons Shipbuilding and Engine Company, Philadelphia—One vessel, authorized by Act of March 3, 1899, at \$3,900,000; Act of June 7, 1900, one vessel at \$3,780,000.

Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, Newport News, Va.—One vessel, Act of March 3, 1899, one vessel at \$3,750,000; Act of June 7, 1900, one vessel at \$3,750,000.

Union Iron Works, San Francisco, Cal.—Act of March 3, 1899, one vessel at \$3,850,000; Act of June 7, 1900, one vessel at \$3,850,000.

Ridgen Iron & Locomotive Works of San Francisco, Cal.—Act of June 7, 1900, one vessel at \$3,750,000.

ARMORED CRUISERS, NOT BREASTED OR COPIED.

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100 WOMEN KILLED.

The Other One, Mrs. Emma Botay, Won the First Prize, a \$500 Piano.

Eight hundred women played progressive euchre yesterday afternoon at Sherry's for the benefit of the Army and Navy Aid Society. Ten Egbert L. Vile, President of the society, and Capt. Bailey Thomas, the Secretary, were kept busy making announcements and distributing the seventy-two handsome prizes contributed by various tradesmen for the occasion. The beginning and end of each game, instead of being determined by the ringing of a dinner bell, were made known by a bugle blast blown by Frank Breutz of Company B, Eleventh Infantry, stationed at Governors Island. He more than upheld the United States soldier's reputation for bravery by standing at attention on a stage at one end of the room for two hours with 100 women facing him.

The first prize, a \$500 upright grand piano, was won by Mrs. Emma Botay of 144 East Fifty-fifth street. Mrs. Richard Henry Savage, the chairman of the Reception Committee, announced at the close of the tournament that she would arrange another euchre party after Christmas, with an automobile as first prize.

HOLD-UP BESIDE THE POST OFFICE.

Astor House Guest Knocked Down and Robbed of Watch and Pin.

S. C. Cooper, who for several days has been staying at the Astor House, appeared at the hotel about 1 o'clock yesterday morning, and was being dressed by a maid when he was held up by a man who had been roughed up and reported that he had been knocked down while passing along the west side of the Post Office and robbed of his watch and a diamond pin. Many complaints have been made recently by pedestrians who have been assaulted and in some instances threatened, by the crew of street beggars who haunt the sidewalk along the Post Office building. The beggars, who are ready to become forceful, are not afraid to go to the Post Office at night without being molested. The police have made no effort to stop the nuisance. As a matter of fact, it is one of the localities in which a reduction of the police force is seldom if ever seen after night-fall.

DRUGGIST HELD FOR MANSLAUGHTER.

Formally Accused of Killing the Child Who Took His Cough Mixture.

Oscar Epstein, the Bronx druggist who was arrested on Thursday night for having sold to William S. Gordon of 912 Trinity avenue a cough mixture which is alleged to have caused the death of Gordon's two-year-old grandchild, Howard Milligan, was held in \$2,000 bail yesterday by Coroner Lynch on the charge of manslaughter.

Gordon says he went to Epstein's drug store at 183d street and Forest avenue last Sunday night to get some cough medicine for the child. Epstein recommended a mixture of his own, and Gordon bought it. After the child had taken two doses he became worse, and last Wednesday died. Coroner's inquest yesterday afternoon found that the child had taken a large percentage of opium in it, and that the mixture had caused the death of the child.

SPURNED SUITOR HAD A GUN.

Young Woman Was Frightened—Successful Rival Had Him Locked Up.

Robert M. Monroe of New Haven was held for examination on Monday next by Magistrate Bristow in Brooklyn yesterday on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon. He was arrested Thursday night at the home of W. F. Mackey, 320 Fifth street, who called in Policeman Gallagher. Mr. Mackey said that he had seen Monroe with a gun in his hand. Monroe was arrested at 145 Bedford avenue, where he was in Mackey's house at the time.

Miss Barlow is to be married to Mackey. She had previously received attention from Monroe, who had been in love with her for some time. Monroe was a failure in a business enterprise that was a failure and in which he lost \$2,000. He was then associated with Monroe in the course of business. Magistrate Bristow could not try the case until the next day, when he will hear the case.

Former Senator Irbly Dying.

COLEMAN, S. C., Dec. 7.—Former United States Senator John L. Irbly, who has been in the hospital for some time, died yesterday at 10 o'clock. He was 71 years of age.

The depression which developed in the northwest gathered energy and moved eastward to the Ohio Valley, where it was at its height yesterday, causing high winds in the Mississippi States, upper lake region, Ohio and Tennessee valleys, attended by rain and snow in all the lake region districts, snow in the upper Mississippi Valley, rain in the central Mississippi Valley, and rain in the Ohio Valley.

The temperature was recorded by the official thermometer, and also by THE SUN'S thermometer at the street level, is shown in the annexed table:

Official—Sun's—Official—Sun's—
1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1